



Ocala

City Council

Synopsis

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

4:00 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Ben Marciano
Pro Tem Jay A. Musleh
Council Member Kristen M. Dreyer
Council Member James P. Hilty Sr
Council Member Barry Mansfield
Council President Ire J. Bethea Sr

2a. New Employees

- William Polykronis, Facilities
- John Shinnick, Facilities
- Gary Bozeman, Public Works

3. Public Notice

- **Public Notice for the January 6, 2026 City Council Regular Meeting was posted on December 3, 2025**

4. Proclamations and Awards

- 4a.** Presentation of the Arbor Day Proclamation to the Presidents of Pioneer Garden Club Jacqua Ballas and Marjorie Hendon
- 4b.** Presentation of the Newton A. Perry Day Proclamation to Jessica Fieldhouse, Ocala Main Street Executive Director, and to Delee Perry, daughter of the late Newton A. Perry
- 4c.** Presentation of the Marion County's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Day Proclamation to Ms. Paula Leahmon, President of Marion County's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission, Inc.
- 4d.** Presentation of the late Honorable Mrs. Mary Sue Rich Proclamation to the family of Mrs. Mary Sue Rich

5. Presentations

6. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of Council or the public request specific items to be removed for separate discussion and action.

RESULT: APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOVER: Jay A. Musleh

SECONDER: James P. Hilty Sr

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 6a.** Fiscal Year 2026-27 tentative budget calendar

Presentation By: Tammi Haslam

- 6b.** Budget Resolution 2026-119 to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget to appropriate funds from the Police Trust and Agency Fund reserve account to supplement the purchase of handheld x-ray equipment in the amount of \$48,515

Presentation By: Michael Balken

- 6c.** Certified administrative costs for SunTran's Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget as required by Section 341.071 of the Florida Statutes

Presentation By: Tom Duncan

- 6d.** Four-year renewal agreement with Truist Bank for comprehensive banking services through May 31, 2030

Presentation By: Peter Brill

- 6e.** Resolution 2026-10 to accept the donation of outdoor sculpture "Flamingo", valued at \$9,500 into the City's public art collection for permanent display at Tuscawilla Park

Presentation By: Emily Parkman

- 6f.** Resolution 2026-11 to appoint members to the City of Ocala's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee for three-year terms ending December 31, 2028

Presentation By: James Haynes

- 6g.** Budget Resolution 2026-120 to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget to accept and appropriate program income for the City of Ocala's State Housing Initiative Program grant in the amount of \$1,152

Presentation By: James Haynes

- 6h.** December 16, 2025 City Council meeting minutes

Presentation By: Angel Jacobs

7. Consent Agenda Items Held for Discussion

Should any items be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion, they will be discussed at this time.

8. Introduction and First Readings of Ordinances

9. Public Hearings / Second and Final Readings / Adoption of Ordinances

- 9a.** Public hearing to review and receive comments concerning SunTran's proposed budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2025 which includes Section 5307 grant funding from the Federal Transit Administration, Florida Department of Transportation Block Grant funding, toll road revenue credits, and local matches from the City and County for a total budget of \$6,300,562

Presentation By: Tom Duncan

- 9b.** Public Hearing to consider the issuance of a location permit for the sale of beer, wine and liquor for off-premises consumption for Wal-Mart Stores East, LP, doing business as, Walmart #4245 located on Parcel 29850-001-00 (Quasi-Judicial)

Presentation By: Endira Madraveren

RESULT: ADOPTED

MOVER: James P. Hilty Sr

SECONDER: Jay A. Musleh

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 9c.** Ordinance 2026-5 to amend the Code of Ordinances, City of Ocala, Florida, Section 122-1225 to authorize the use of above-ground air curtain burners as an ancillary use to a materials recovery facility as well as establishing conditions and limitations relating to such ancillary use (COD25-0004)

Presentation By: Jeff Shrum

Introduced By: James P. Hilty Sr

Motion Amended to postpone Ordinance 2026 5 to amend the Code of Ordinances, City of Ocala, Florida, Section 122 1225 to authorize the use of above ground air curtain burners as an ancillary use to a materials recovery facility as well as establishing conditions and limitations relating to such ancillary use (COD25 0004) to February 3, 2026 City Council meeting

RESULT: POSTPONED

MOVER: Jay A. Musleh

SECONDER: James P. Hilty Sr

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 9d.** Ordinance 2026-6 to rezone approximately 3.57 acres for a portion of property located at 2336 NW Seventh Street (Parcel 22682-000-00) from M-1, Light Industrial, to M-2, Medium Industrial (Case ZON25-0014) (Quasi-Judicial)

Presentation By: Emily Johnson

Introduced By: Kristen M. Dreyer

Motion Amended Ordinance 2026-6 to rezone approximately 3.57 acres for a portion of property located at 2336 NW Seventh Street (Parcel 22682-000-00) from M-1, Light Industrial, to M-2, Medium Industrial (Case ZON25-0014) (Quasi-Judicial), removing Section 7(1) from the Ordinance

RESULT: ADOPTED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: James P. Hilty Sr

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

10. General Business

- 10a.** One-year renewal of the Construction Services Agreement with Miller Pipeline, LLC, for Water Resources Improvement Program Projects in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000

Presentation By: Sean Lanier

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: James P. Hilty Sr

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 10b.** Renewal of contract with Art Walker Construction, Inc. for lime sludge hauling services at Water Treatment Plant No. 1 with a two-year expenditure of \$180,000

Presentation By: Sean Lanier

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Jay A. Musleh

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 10c.** Cost-share agreement with St. Johns River Water Management District for the Ocala Lower Floridan Aquifer Conversion Phase IV project in the amount of \$2,000,000

Presentation By: Sean Lanier

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: James P. Hilty Sr

SECONDER: Barry Mansfield

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 10d.** Budget Resolution 2026-121 to accept and appropriate funds from St. Johns River Water Management District for the Lower Floridan Aquifer Conversion Phase IV project in the amount of \$2,000,000 and transfer the cost share amount of \$2,000,000 from the Water Resources fund reserve for contingencies account

Presentation By: Sean Lanier

RESULT: ADOPTED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: Barry Mansfield

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 10e.** Item pulled.

- 10f.** Budget Resolution 2026-122 to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget to accept and appropriate 2025-26 State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program grant funding in the amount of \$242,771

Presentation By: James Haynes

RESULT: ADOPTED

MOVER: Jay A. Musleh

SECONDER: James P. Hilty Sr

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 10g.** Purchase of various inventory items for Ocala Fiber Network from multiple vendors in an amount not to exceed \$207,590

Presentation By: Mel Poole

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: Barry Mansfield

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

- 10h.** A three-year Agreement with Excleron Software, LLC, for MyUsage Prepaid Software in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000

Presentation By: Veronica Martinez

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: James P. Hilty Sr

SECONDER: Barry Mansfield

AYE: Musleh, Dreyer, Hilty Sr, Mansfield, and Bethea Sr

11. Internal Auditor's Report

12. City Manager's Report

- **Legacy contracts update**

- **Business tax revenue**
- **2050 Vision Workshop scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 12:00 pm in Council Chambers**
- **Baseball field rentals**
- **Train derailment on Magnolia**
- **Safe Routes to School meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 5:00 pm at Howard Middle School**

13. Ocala Police Department Report

- **Overview of Crime and Traffic Stops**
- **Department Highlights**

14. Ocala Fire Rescue Department Report

- **Unit Responses**
- **Service calls update**
- **Department Highlights**

15. City Attorney's Report

16. Public Comments

- **Shanta Norton, 117 NW 16th Terrace, Ocala, FL, spoke on student safety**
- **Dr. Kathryn Crowell-Grate and Nathaniel Grate, 2825 SW 34th Avenue, Ocala, FL, spoke on pedestrian safety**
- **Jason Tolbert, 201 NE 37th Court, Ocala, FL, requested permission to place Wingstop signage near the public sidewalk and street median**
- **Jerry Lourenco, 9875 SE 58th Avenue, Ocala, FL, expressed concern regarding the City's Roll-Off Compactor Ordinance**

17. Informational Items and Calendaring Items

- Tuesday, January 13, 2026 - City Council workshop Re: Sanitation Rate Study - 12:00pm - Council Chambers
- Monday, January 19, 2026 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday - City Offices closed
- Tuesday, January 20, 2026 - CRA Board meeting - 3:30pm - Council Chambers
- Tuesday, January 20, 2026 - City Council meeting - 4:00pm - Council Chambers
- Tuesday, January 27, 2026 - TPO Meeting - 3:00pm - McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium
- Tuesday, February 3, 2026 - City Council meeting - 4:00pm - Council Chambers
- Tuesday, February 17, 2026 - CRA Board meeting - 3:45pm - Council Chambers
- Tuesday, February 17, 2026 - City Council meeting - 4:00pm - Council Chambers

17a. Power Cost Adjustment Report - November 2025

18. Comments by Mayor

- **Mayor's Fitness Challenge 2026**
- **Mental health services for the incarcerated**

19. Comments by City Council Members

- **Council Member Dreyer requested the City schedule a meeting with the County's Affordable Housing Committee to assist the County in streamlining their process for affordable housing**
- **Council Member Dreyer commented on the public notice sign posted in front of the strip mall located near State Road 40**
- **Council President Bethea thanked the City for services provided for Mrs. Mary Sue Rich's burial celebration**

20. Adjournment

- **Adjourned at 5:35 pm**